

Abstract of the Disclosure

A figure selection method of the present invention is arranged to include a retrieval step of figure element adjacent to a designated figure element, in a figure selection method of selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements. Thus, designation is automatically accomplished without designating figure elements which are adjacent to the designated figure element. The retrieval step is arranged to retrieve a figure element in the neighborhood of the designated figure element. Accordingly, designation is automatically accomplished without designating figure elements in the neighborhood of the designated figure element. The retrieval step is arranged to retrieve a figure element adjacent to the retrieved figure elements. By doing so, designation is automatically accomplished without designating figure elements adjacent to or in the neighborhood of the figure elements which are adjacent to or in the neighborhood of the designated figure element. The retrieval step is arranged to perform a retrieval process the predetermined number of times. Accordingly, figure elements adjacent to or in the neighborhood of figure elements which are

adjacent to or in the neighborhood of the designated figure element, are automatically designated the predetermined number of times. Further, the figure selection method of the present invention is arranged to include a step of displaying the figure element which has been retrieved by the retrieval step, in a style different from that of other figure elements. Therefore, the automatically-designated figure elements can be distinguished from other not-designated figure elements.

The figure selection device of the present invention is arranged to include a figure element designation unit designating a figure element, and a figure element retrieval unit retrieving a figure element adjacent to the designated figure element, in a figure selection device selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements. Thus, designation can be automatically accomplished without designating figure elements adjacent to the designated figure element.

Further, a computer-readable storage medium of the present invention, which stores a figure selection program, is arranged to retrieve a figure element adjacent to the designated figure element in a storage medium storing a figure selection program for

selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements. Accordingly, designation can be automatically accomplished without designating figure elements adjacent to the designated figure element.

1. A method of designating a figure element in a figure, the figure being formed by a plurality of figure elements, the method comprising: receiving a designation of a figure element; and automatically designating a figure element adjacent to the designated figure element.